THE AUSTRALIAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY
(Queensland Branch)

We now have a new group affiliated with the AHS. A group of nurserymen, hybridizers, and others who were interested in Hibiscus in Australia have formed the Australian Hibiscus Society (Queensland Branch) with headquarters in Brisbane. Their president is Mr. Jim Howie and I quote from his letter:

"I was very pleased to have received your last letter and we appreciate all the help you have offered us. I am enclosing our cheque for $25.00 U.S. as dues for the Australian Hibiscus Society (Qld. Branch) and it's very good of you to give us four complete sets of nomenclatures and four issues of the Seed Pod.

"It is our intention to adopt the same form of descriptions of Hibiscus as you are doing and your offer to make an Australina supplement to your nomenclature is most certainly acceptable to us, however we have not started compiling our lists as yet. We will be doing so when time permits.

"For the information of your board members, we have at present 32 members. We chose the name Queensland Branch, anticipating other states of Australia joining our organization. We desire as soon as possible to record as many varieties of Hibiscus that are grown in Australia and if possible note from where they originated, whether imported or raised in Australia, and by whom.

"Our finances at this stage are limited. Our running expenses are very small and in the near future we anticipate a sharp rise in membership, due to the fact, that we are holding our first show

on the 5th & 6th of this month (April) also another on the 11th of May.

"Brisbane is an ideally suited area for growing Hibiscus. Our winters are very mild and only rarely do we get severe frost and this is only in the outlying areas. We get plenty of flowers all the year round, but unfortunately the general public are not aware of the extensive range of colours that are available. We hope to rectify this in the very near future with our shows.

"We are slowly building up a slide bank and would be happy to send you some of these in the near future and these could be returned when you have looked over them. If this could be worked both ways it would be ideal. I am sure that some of our varieties would have different names to what they should have and the slides sould be a great benefit in this regard. I am sure that our organizations will have a lot of information to exchange."

We are very happy to have the Australian Hibiscus Society affiliate with us and wish them success in all of their projects. This is a fine opportunity for our two orgainzations to work together on nomenclature and many other phases of our "Queen of the Tropics".

The objects of the new Society are:

To foster the love of Hibiscus throughout Queensland and Australia, to maintain and increase their popularity.

To disseminate information concerning their culture by means of bulletins.

To encourage and foster a friendly exchange between Hibiscus enthusiasts of Qweensland, throughout Australia and other countries.

To co-operate with Horticultural Societies.